



# OTVARC Oscillator

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

## August 1996 Issue

Home Page : [WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC](http://WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC)

From the Oval Office

Jim - KB7ADH

Bill N7VZF, our former president (& current newsletter editor) refers to June and July as "the silly season". WOW, this year, for me, August and September sure are the Super Silly season. Between WORK (all of a sudden I'm filling two positions at the pump factory), OTVARC, Cycle Oregon, The Portland Marathon and a 20 year old daughter, I have double booked myself everywhere. The next OTVARC meeting I will be able to attend will be the October club meeting. My sincere apologies! I am still reachable by phone 245-2518 at home and at work 226-5287 (voice mail is now on). So don't feel like I've abandoned the club between now and October.

Be sure to attend the August meeting. We will be holding a special election to fill a vacant Trustee position through the end of the year. We have three members running for the position. They are: Bud Butterfield KC7PS, Will Sheffield N7THL and Hanford VanNess KE7BB. Alan KB7POR has agreed to fill in for me and supervise the election.

As long as I am on the subject of elections, we need members to run for Officer and Trustee positions for the 1997 club year. We will have open nominations at the October Club meeting. This year the nominating committee consists of Alan KB7POR, Bill N7VZF and me. If you feel you can help improve the club in 1997 call one of us and offer your services. Don't wait for one of us to call you. I would like to see three people running for each position; just like we have for the open trustee position. You don't need experience. You just need to be a club member with ideas and a desire to help.

Thanks to Trustee Chuck KI7CL, we now have a GREAT NEW CLUB CALL -- W7OTV. The call arrived Thursday just before Field Day. So, W7OTV was on the air right away for Field Day. Now, we have to come up with phonetics for W7OTV. I tried W7Orange Tiger Vomit. That seemed to be a real good way to totally silence the 20 meter phoneband. Other suggestions have been Oregon's True Voice (take that K7Radio Oregon), Old Time Vaudeville, One Tired Vehicle, On To Victory. What can you come up with?? Send me your suggestions. I will collect them and we will vote (probably at the December meeting) for the best

one from what I think are the top ten I receive. If I don't get ten suggestions then I'll add a few of my own (beware!). There will be a prize for the top vote getter.

Back to Field Day. GREAT JOB CARL. If you didn't attend Field Day, you missed one of the better ones. At one time I counted more than 40 people on site. The phone station in the trailer ran almost round-the-clock with various operators. Mary N7TRW (with various control ops) seemed to really get into HF operating. As usual the tri-band beam didn't get put together quite right. Hey guys, the weep holes in the traps go down, not up. That way the water drains out. Oh well, I think at least 2 out of six elements had the holes down. As usual on Field Day, possession is the law. When the battery in the phone station went dead at 2 am and everyone else was Zzzzzzzing; the battery from the Novice/Tech. station suddenly came up missing. The Novices and Techs did a great job setting up the ladder tower with the 10 meter beam and wire antennas. Ten was even open on Saturday afternoon!!! Using Janet's WB7FJC (Fine Junk Cars) call they even worked WB6FJC. Carl WS7L kept the CW station going great guns. Lots of CW contacts. Where were the rest of you CW ops? Mike KA7PWZ set up a packet station and worked a lot of packet on both days. Thanks too to Jack KA7HOJ for bringing the refrigerator. Ask Jack about his "real" operating table (its a gurney) sometime. Bud KC7PS furnished some fantastic Halogen floodlights. George KC7LOP hauled the club trailer to and from the site. AND the travelers Saturday night potluck was unbelievable!!! I took a few slides to show at a future OTVARC meeting if you are interested. Where do you want to go for Field Day in 1997? Its only 10 months away. Thank to Bill N7VZF and Greg W7AGQ for filling in to run the July meeting and provide a program. Any bets on how many times Tri-mess will cancel out on giving us a program? I think that was our last try. Maybe next time we'll call Radio Cab to tell us about their radio system!

OK, time to stop for this month. My phone is still pretty quiet and my mail box isn't full.  
AAAAAAAdh

## Minutes of Board Meeting 6-26-96

1. Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Jim Schaeffer.
2. Those in attendance: Chuck Mickley, Janet Bell, Alan Chinnock, Neil Mckie, Brad Beach, Carl Clawson, Al Berg, Stan Griffiths, and Jim Schaeffer.
3. The secretary did not bring a printed copy of the minutes and the newsletter was not yet distributed. The minutes were not read or approved.
4. John Klein KA7ICV passed away earlier this month.
5. The treasurer's report was distributed.
6. Moved that the raffle be changed to be self supporting. Seconded. Passed unanimously. It was suggested that the purchases each month be made from the proceeds from the previous month.
7. Discussion on how to attract more non-member hams to our meetings. It was decided to use direct mail. We will mail cards to approximately 200 hams in our area each month to invite them to our meetings. The card will be like a QSL card. Carl Clawson and Neil Mckie will work on the labelling process. Al Berg, Stan Griffiths, and Brad Beach will work on designing and printing the cards.
8. We got our club call. We are now W7OTV. Some pretty scary phonetics have been suggested.
9. The nominating committee will be chaired by Jim Schaeffer. Bill Merwin has agreed to serve on the committee.
10. Janet Bell reported that a number of people have been borrowing the "Now You're Talking" books from the library.
11. Carl Clawson reported a good Field Day. The score, the food and the site were all good.
12. Moved to reimburse George Bates \$24.00 in mileage expenses for towing the trailer to Field Day. Seconded. Passed unanimously.
13. Work on the scholarship committee will be starting soon, now that Carl Clawson is finished with Field Day.
14. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Alan R. Chinnock KB7POR Secretary

### AZDEN RADIOS

2-Meter and 6-Meter mobiles in stock

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## 1996 Calendar of Interesting Things

Aug 10	Saturday	Diabetes Bike Ride (Betty N7REX)
Aug 10	Saturday	Tacoma Electronics Fleamarket
Aug 16-18		Travellers A Fun Place Rick & Joan Schouweiler
Aug 16-18		MS Border to Border Bike Ride
Aug 17		Longview Swap Meet
Sep 7-14		Cycle Oregon (Notice of missing board members)
Sep 11	Wednesday	September Meeting - Flea Market
Sep 14-15		Hoodview Hamfest
Sep 15	Sunday	Walk for the Cure (Betty N7REX)
Sep 21	Saturday	Portland Ham Fair
Sep 20-22		Travellers Randle, WA Chuck & Betty Mickley
Sep 27-29		Walla Walla Hamfest
Sep 28	Saturday	Fall National Exam Day
Sep 29	Sunday	Fall National Exam Day
Oct 5	Saturday	Diabetes Walk (Betty N7REX)
Oct 12	Saturday	Nampa Hamfest
Oct 12	Saturday	North Kitsap Hamfest, Bremerton, WA
Oct 18-20		Travellers Somewhere Bob & Jo Orr
Oct 26	Saturday	Mid-Valley ARES, Rickreall
Oct 30	Wednesday	Fifth Wednesday Radio Contest
Nov 9	Saturday	Bellingham Radio Fleamarket, Ferndale, WA
Nov 15-17		Travellers Depoe Bay Tom & Barb Bailey
Nov 29	Friday	Santa Claus Parade (Jim KB7ADH)
Jun 14-15		SEAPAC 1997

If you would like an event included in the calendar please call Alan Chinnock KB7POR at 636-2237. If it is in reasonably good taste I will include it.

## INTRODUCTION TO PACKET - Part 14 - by Larry Kenney, WB9LOZ

### TNC COMMANDS - continued from Part 13

**MAXFRAME** Sets the upper limit on the number of unacknowledged packets the TNC can have outstanding at any time. (The outstanding packets are those that have been sent but have not been acknowledged.) It also determines the maximum number of contiguous packets that can be sent during one transmission. Value can be set from 1 to 7. The best value of MAXFRAME depends on the frequency conditions. The better the conditions are, the higher the value you can use. If conditions are poor due to the amount of traffic on the frequency, noise, or other variables, (shown by lots of retries) MAXFRAME should be reduced to improve throughput. The best value of MAXFRAME can be determined through experimentation. MAXFRAME of 1 should be used for best results on HF packet.

**MFILTER** This command allows you to enter up to four ASCII character codes, 0 - \$7F, for the control characters that you want eliminated from your monitored packets. Codes may be entered in either Hex or Decimal. Here are the ASCII codes for some of the more troublesome control characters found in monitored packets:

HEX	DEC	FUNCTION	POSSIBLE RESULT
\$07	07	Control G	Rings your bell or "beeps" your speaker
\$0C	12	Control L	Form feed - could clear your screen
\$13	19	Control S	Can cause your screen to stop scrolling
\$1A	26	Control Z	Can clear your screen
\$1B	27	Escape	Can cause your cursor to move to a random point on your screen and can raise havoc with printer control.

AEA has added a new code, \$80, that will not allow ANY control characters to be displayed on the user's screen from monitored packets.

PACKET - Cont'd on Page 10



Field Day '96  
W7OTV / WB7FJC

We had a GREAT Field Day this year. Great hamming, great camping, great company and great food are unbeatable ingredients for a real Field Day. The only thing we could have asked for would have been to forgo the half inch of rain that fell in the night. But heck, the weather cleared up in time to tear down so that wasn't even so bad.

There were very few hitches getting set up. Antennas loaded right up, and we were on the air almost at the stroke of 11:00 a.m. An intermittent high SWR on one of the trailer's antennas cropped up for a second year, and that problem was finally identified and patched around. Altogether, we had 411 'phone QSOs (49 Novice/Tech + 362 General) and 103 CW QSOs. In addition, 3 packet contacts scored us 100 bonus points in addition to the regular QSO points. Other bonuses we earned were for public relations (300 points), message to ARRL Section Manager (100 points), and copying the special W1AW Field Day Message (100 points).

Bottom line for the event: 1846. This is the best score we've had since the event at West Union in 1993, and should place us squarely in the middle of the 2A class. I thank everyone for their participation, and hope that we can continue improving our performance. And how might we do that? First, we could score more bonus points. In particular, the Natural Power and VHF/UHF bonus points should be easily within reach, and Satellite is a possibility that we've done in the past. Secondly, more CW opera-

tors would be a real plus. I kept that station running only about half the time. Doing a few of these things could add 500 to 1000 points to our results.

Propagation was fairly good to us this year. Six-landers were of course the most common contacts, but except for the Northeast we made QSOs with most parts of the US and Canada, plus Hawaii/Pacific and Alaska. (Not being a real DXer, I had to go look up what a "KH8" was.)

Of course, the score isn't everything, and we had the usual good times watching the kids play, gabbing around the campfire, and eating like kings. Oh, yes, and playing with all the interesting toys owned by KA7HOJ. His VCR with built-in monitor kept my kids entranced for hours, and the bicycle was indispensable for gathering firewood. We never used the lawn mower he brought, however.

There was a significant milestone achieved this year. KC7PS's TS-50S lost its - how shall I say this? - "virtue" when I had my way with it and sent CW on it for the first time. The mike made a good paperweight. I'm afraid the secret of CW contest operating got out however. Some of the other folks started noticing that I rarely actually touched the key, but just poked at a few buttons on my memory keyer. See, it's not that hard, and it really scores some points!

Thanks to all! I won't try to name all the names, but those of you who went the extra mile - cooking, setting up, operating, hauling the trailer, entertaining my kids - know who you are. I especially appreciate those who

brought visitors to join in the fun. It's always a treat to see the interest being piqued when non-hams see the operation going full steam.

That's it for now. Next June will come be here before we know it, and we'll do it again.

73 from Carl WS7L

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Project Nite  
by Chuck Mickley

The next Project Nite is scheduled for Wednesday, August 21st. It will be the time to catch up on your soldering technique, and to select a project for construction. You will want to browse through the kit catalog notebook, available at the club meetings and at Project Nites, to find that kit that you never knew existed, and can't possibly live without! A limited number of the Roll-up J-pole antenna kits are still available for \$5.00 each.

Sessions are currently scheduled for the small Training Room at the Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Headquarters building, located at 20665 SW Blanton, in Aloha, between 198th and 209th, just South of TV Highway, southwest of Intel and east of the fire station located at 209th and Blanton. All sessions will be from 7PM to 9PM.

If you have any tools or test equipment that you would like to donate to a worthy cause, now is the time to get them to your Project Nite leaders.

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**Don't Forget!!!!**

The Special Election at the  
August Meeting

Election to fill Trustee Position

Bud Butterfield

Hanford Van Ness

Will Sheffield

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## News From All Over

### Changes for HAM Plates for Your Car

The following letter was received by those who already have HAM plates on their vehicles. Those of you who do not have these plates might be interested in the new option of the Oregon Trail graphic plates.

June 26, 1996

To: All Amateur Radio Operators

From: Russ Graham, Manager  
DMV Document Processing

Subject: Change for Amateur Radio Operator  
Plate Holders

There is interest from Amateur Radio (HAM) Operator Plate holders to have a graphic plate option. Effective July 1, 1996, holders of HAM plates may replace their yellow HAM plates with Oregon Trail graphic plates.

There are two ways to replace your current HAM plates. The first option (which is the least expensive) is to replace your plates at the same time you renew your registration. The fee for this is \$9.00 in addition to your registration renewal fee. The second option is to replace your plates separate from your renewal. The fee for this is \$18.50. You will pay the full renewal fee at the time your registration expires.

If you want to apply for replacement HAM plates (whether renewing your registration or not), complete and sign the enclosed Application for Registration or Replacement Plates and Stickers, Form 268, and return it to DMV in the enclosed envelope with the appropriate fee.

If you have any questions, call the Special Plate Desk at (503) 945-5118.

A friend of mine was on the phone with a tech rep from another company. That tech rep called in to ask some questions about system setup, as the company this tech works for actually sells, installs and warranties systems.

While they were on the phone, this tech rep received an incoming call, which he took. When the caller hung up, the tech rep came back on the phone, laughing like a crazy person. This is the call he took:

Caller: "Hello, is this Tech Support?"

Tech Rep: "Yes, it is. How may I help you?"

Caller: "The cup holder on my PC is broken and I am within my warranty period. How do I go about getting that fixed?"

Tech Rep: "I'm sorry, but did you say a cup holder?"

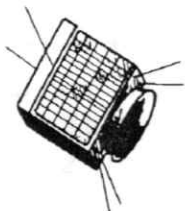
Caller: "Yes, it's attached to the front of my computer."

Tech Rep: "Please excuse me if I seem a bit stumped, it's because I am. Did you receive this as part of a promotional, at a trade show? How did you get this cup holder? Does it have any trade mark on it?"

Caller: "It came with my computer, I don't know anything about a promotional. It just has '4X' on it."

At this point the Tech Rep had to mute the caller, because he couldn't stand it. The caller had been using the load drawer of the CD-ROM drive as a cup holder, and snapped it off the drive.

## From: Satellite Station - W7KJZ



I had been out of town on the 20th so thought I had passed the deadline. However, I started working on an article for next month so am sending you what I have. It is not my usual 1 page, but better than nothing huh??

### \* SAFEX REPEATER OPEN \*

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The 70-cm FM voice repeater operating on the Russian space station Mir is now open for general use. The repeater operates with an input frequency of 435.750 MHz and requires a CTCSS tone of 141.3 Hz for access. The repeater output is on a frequency of 437.950 MHz, and the callsign is RR0DL.

The SAFEX voice recorder beacon is expected to be in operation next week using a downlink frequency of 437.925 MHz.

Dave Larsen, N6JLH reports working the repeater with 25-watts of transmitter power and a 35-element yagi antenna. He has not been able to operate the repeater with a mobile transceiver and a 5/8-wave whip antenna, even on a 75 degree elevation pass.

MIR is a rapidly moving spacecraft, so all SAFEX contacts should be as short as possible. Also be sure to consider the +/- 10 kHz of Doppler shift that is typical of LEO satellite operation on the 70-cm band.

Shannon Lucid can occasionally be heard making two-way voice contacts on 145.550 MHz from Space Station MIR. Shannon recently made a contact with a mobile station in Florida

### \* HOUSTON AMSAT NET NEWS \*

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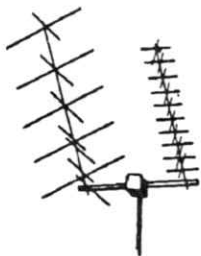
Bruce Paige, KK5DO reports that in addition to hearing the Houston, Texas AMSAT Net on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 PM Central time (Wednesdays at 0100 UTC) on the SBS 6 satellite, transponder 13B (upper) at 74 degrees (next to Galaxy 6 & 1.860 MHz AM), it can now be heard via an audio feed available on the Internet. A link this audio feed may be found at: <http://www.phoenix.net/~paigecom/>



### \* OSCAR STATUS \*

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Clive Wallis, continues to perform nominal and is showing seasonal reduction in



G3CWV, reports that the UoSAT-OSCAR-11 satellite well. Clive added that the spacecraft telemetry is a small temperature increase that is the result of a solar eclipses.

The RS12 satellite continues to operate well in Mode KT with uplinks in the 15-meter band, and strong downlink signals in both the 10-meter and 2-meter bands. 2-meter reception of the RS12 is pretty easy right down to the transponder noise floor.

The AMSAT-OSCAR-16 satellite continues to perform well in fileserver mode. On Saturday 27-Jul-96, the satellite was reporting a kernel uptime of 678 days. AO-16 may be accessed using PG/PB or SatLink under DOS, WiSP under Windows, or the Microsat Groundstation Software Suite under Linux.

Work continues in bringing the WEBERSAT-OSCAR-18 satellite back on-line. The satellite is currently in Microsat Boot Loader (MBL) mode, and has been copied with good signals at KD2BD in New Jersey. Occasionally, the spacecraft sends several WEBER>MBLCTL <UI> frames containing binary data on it's 70-cm downlink.



# HamFests, Conventions, Swap Meets:

## Saturday, August 10, 1996

The Radio Club of Tacoma, W7DK presents the Tacoma Electronics Fleamarket at the Charles Wright Academy - 7723 Chambers Creek Rd West - Tacoma WA. Doors open at 9 AM and the event runs till 3 PM. Admission is \$4 with children 12 and under are Free. Talk-in frequency is 147.28+. For more info contact Alan Hughes at (206) 840-4947 or (206) 596-7472(pager).

## Saturday, August 17, 1996

Lower Columbia Amateur Radio Association - Longview WA is holding its 5th Annual Ham Radio, Computer, & Electronic Equipment Swap Meet. The event is being held at the Cowlitz County Fairgrounds in Longview. Admission is \$3. 100 tables are available as well as tailgate sales area outside. Talk-in frequency is 147.26+. For more info call (360) 425-6076, (360) 425-9184 or (360) 425-1866. e-Mail inquiries can be addressed to KB7ADO@aol.com.

## Saturday, September 21, 1996

Last Fall's first Portland Hamfair was a great success, according to Ed Clulow, W7TWL, of the Hoodview ARC. So the club has reserved the Pay 'N' Pak Collectors Market building for the second one to be held from 9-5. Grand prize is a Kenwood VHF mobile. The building is the site of many swap meets and has lots of room. Parking is somewhat limited in the Delta Park neighborhood, but there is a fairly good size lot. Early registration deadline is August 17 for an extra prize ticket Preregistration deadline is September 14.

## Fri/Sat/Sun, September 20-22, 1996

ARRL and TAPR are presenting the *Digital Communications Conference* (DCC) in Seattle. This is the same weekend though as the Portland Hamfest. You can get additional information on DCC by accessing <http://www.tapr.org/tapr/html/dccconf.html>. Thanks to Griff - N7ZKL for this information.

## Saturday, October 26, 1996

Mid-Valley ARES proudly presents its 2nd annual **SWAP-TOBERFEST** ARES/RACES convention. The event is scheduled to be held at the Polk County Fairgrounds - West of Salem where Hwy 22 meets 99W. Grand Prize is a VHF HT with a \$100 gift certificate for accessories. This is touted as "A Convention with the Emergency Communicator in mind....". Planned displays include the Oregon State Police Communications Van, the Marion and Polk County Emergency Communications Van, Red Cross and the Civil Air Patrol...[provided vehicles are not actively working an incident]... VE Testing will be available. Contact Evan - N7IFJ - (503) 585-5924. For VE testing pre-registartion contact Sandy - N7TQQ - (503) 588-7685.

## Saturday November 9th, 1996

Mount Baker Amateur Radio Club will be holdind their Seventh Annual BellingHAM RADIO FLEAMARKET at the Ferndale Band Booster Bingo Hall - NW corner of I-5 and Smith Road Overpass, Ferndale WA. Admission will be \$3 at the door. The fleamarket will feature Ham Dealers, Country Store, Computers, Club & Repeater info, snack bar and VE Exams. Information is available by contacting Al - K7IEY - (360) 354-4622 or Terry VE7BUS/W7 - (360) 354-5868. Talk-in Freq will be 146.74-.

There you have it. Support local economy - Make them all and spend lots of money....

## BORSCH ELECTRONICS

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**From the Secretary**     **Alan**  
**Chinnock KB7POR**

The Board has decided to investigate a new way of acquainting the neighborhood with our club. The are looking at mailing out postcards to hams in the area to invite them to our club meetings. Right now this is just a brilliant idea, but by the time you read this it may well be on its way to really happening.

We are looking at having fun with this as well. The "postcard" may look a lot like a QSL card and those bringing the cards with them to the meeting will have them signed as eye ball QSO's by the club officers.

This activity should have the effect of bringing a lot more people to our meetings and result in more members joining the club. Now that the board is working on this idea what happens next.

I hope that the rest of the members will help out. First of all by welcoming the visitors. No one will join or return to another meeting if the members do not make them feel welcome. This task is not something the board or a couple of members can do. The whole club must make the club seem like a nice place to be.

That is step one. But there is a lot more to our club and ham radio than going to a meeting once a month. What other activities do we have to offer that will interest and hold new members. I wish I had the answer to that question. I have discovered that being elected to an office did nothing to improve my view of what the members of the club and ham radio in general find interesting. In fact I am beginning to believe that being at the top insures that I will hear nothing of the interests of the members. As a board about all we can do is guess at what might make interesting activities for the club members and then see if anyone shows up. In some cases this can be very hard on the ego.

On the other hand there are

successes. The travellers are one of the shining examples of what can happen when several club members with similar interests get together and do things together. Field day and SEAPAC come to mind as other activities in the club that bring a number of people together. We also have the project night group. Its still small but those of us who have been there have had some enjoyable times.

I suspect that this is just the beginning of the list of interests that people in the club have that could be turned into group activities. Unfortunately I suspect that many or even most of the members of the club think that the board of directors is responsible for organizing and running all the activities in the club. Nothing could be further from the truth. Anyone in the club can lead activities, and I for one, would rather see volunteers than have to force someone to do something because the board thought it might be a good idea.

So this comes back around to the question raised in the beginning, what are we going to have to offer to all the visitors and new members who come to OTVARC? The board does not have the time or the knowledge to properly address all the facets of this question. It is up to the overall membership to propose, plan and execute activities outside the meeting to make this club a

place to be.

P.S. If you would like to see the club stay small with only the current members you need to nothing. That much will happen with no effort from you at all.

## Two-meter jammer loses ham ticket for life

Irvin J. Foret, KB5UJD, of Metairie, LA, one of a group of hams cited for 2 Meter interference in the New Orleans area, has agreed to immediately surrender his Technician Plus Amateur Radio license, and permanently divest himself of all electronic equipment capable of transmitting on the ham bands. In addition, Foret has agreed to refrain for life from applying for any FCC license or permit — regardless of the service; from participating as a third party in communication in the Amateur Radio service; and from transmitting on CB. Foret also agreed to pay \$500.

In addition, Foret agreed to "operate fully and completely with all government officials in connection with any ongoing or future administrative or law enforcement investigations" or proceedings involving ham radio operations by others.

The agreement does not prohibit Foret from engaging in otherwise lawful transmissions over land mobile radio facilities as part of his work.

The FCC also said some of Foret's transmissions were unidentified, included music or were obscene or indecent; the alleged indecent transmissions occurring at a time when there was a reasonable risk that children were in the audience. *Tnx ARRL*

### WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



**Earl Reinoehl**  
Manager  
KE7OA

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Portland, OR 97223  
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OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Questionnaire

What is your favorite club activity?

What is the most enjoyable portion of the club meeting?

What would like to see added at club meetings or to club activities?

What does the club do that you are not interested in?

If you do not attend club meetings, explain why not.

Would you like to present a short (15 minute) program to the club?

What special interest group would you like to start or help with?

If you were president of OTVARC what two things would you change?

1-

2-

Any other comments?

Please mail completed questionnaire to OTVARC President, P.O. Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132 or bring to the next club meeting.

**MHEARD** An immediate command that causes the TNC to display a list of stations that have been heard since the command MHCLEAR was given or the TNC was powered on. This command is useful for determining what stations can be worked from your QTH. Stations that are heard through digipeaters are marked with an \* on most TNCs. On the AEA PK-232, the stations heard direct are marked with the \*. (Check your TNC manual.) The maximum number of stations in the list is 18. If more stations are heard, earlier entries are discarded. Logging of stations heard is disabled when the PASSALL command is ON. If the DAYTIME command has been used to set the date and time, entries in the MHEARD list will show the date and time the stations were heard.

**PASSALL** Causes the TNC to display packets that have invalid checksums. The error-checking is disabled. If PASSALL is ON, packets are accepted for display, despite checksum errors, if they consist of an even multiple of eight bits and are up to 330 bytes. The TNC attempts to decode the address field and display the callsigns in standard format, followed by the text of the packet. PASSALL can be useful for testing marginal paths or for operation under unusual conditions. PASSALL is normally turned OFF.

**SCREENLN n** This parameter determines the length of a line of text on the terminal screen or platen. Value may be 0 to 255. A (CR-LF) carriage return and

line feed are sent to the terminal in Command and Converse modes when n characters have been printed. A value of zero inhibits this action. If your computer automatically formats output lines, this feature should be disabled.

**TXDELAY n** This parameter tells the TNC how long to wait before sending data after it has keyed the transmitter. All transmitters need some start up time to put a signal on the air. Some need more, some need less. Synthesized radios and radios with mechanical relays need more time, while crystal controlled radios and radios with diode switching require less time. External amplifiers usually require additional delay. Experiment to determine the best value for your particular radio. TXDELAY can also be useful to compensate for slow AGC recovery or squelch release times at the distant station.

There are many additional commands available to you. I've only covered the ones that I thought would be the most useful to you. Spend some time reading the owner's operating manual that came with your TNC to discover some of the surprises the other commands offer. New versions of the TNC software have added several commands that you might find useful in your packet operating.

73.....Rick - KB7OGD @ KB7OGD.OR.USA.NOAM



The August Traveler's Outing will be  
A Fun Place  
Check with Rick or Joan Schouweiler  
The Wagonmasters  
690-0357

• Buy • Sell • Trade  
**HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT**

JOSEPH REAVES  
N6FRA

13815-C SW Pacific Hwy.  
Tigard, Oregon 97223

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Aloha, OR 97007-1230

Internet: W7NI@teleport.com  
Phone: (503) 649-0837  
FAX: (503) 591-1620

## OTVARC Club Contacts

### OTVARC Executive Board

President	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
Vice President	Neil McKie	WA6KLA	649-4264
Secretary	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
Treasurer	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
Trustee	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
Trustee	Chuck Mickley	K17CL	642-1284
Trustee	Janet Bell	WB7FJC	648-4147
Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837

### Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator			
Bunny Hunting			
Contesting			
DX News	Rich Jones	KG7FS	645-9417
Equipment Evaluation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services			
Field Day	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Health & Welfare	Mary Berg	N7TRW	640-5456
Member Badges	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Newsletter Editor	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Newsletter Layout	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Nominating Committee	Hanford Van Ness	KE7BB	246-7975
Packet - Club BBS	Rick Braun	KB7OGD	645-1490
Project Night	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
	Chuck Mickley	K17CL	642-1284
Public Relations	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI			
Satellites	Dick Emmel	W7KJZ	245-1928
Scholarship	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Sea-Pac	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Technical			
Tower Ordinances	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training(Code)			
Training(Novice/Tech)			
Training(Upgrade)			
VHF/UHF	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237

## OTVARC Club Information

**Purpose:** The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

**Special Service Club** OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

**Newsletter:** The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

**Correspondence:** All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

**Advertising:** Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates for 1994 are as follows:

Full Page	8" X 10"	\$200 for 6 mo.
Half Page	8" X 5"	\$125 for 6 mo.
Qtr Page	4" X 5"	\$75 for 6 mo.
Bus. Card	2" X 3"	\$35 for 6 mo.

**Meetings:** We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than \$6.

**Membership** OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, \$10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), \$10/yr; Family members of full member, \$5/yr; Life memberships available - see Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club Treasurer for prorated dues.

**How To Join:** Simply mail the Member Application and Renewal Form along with your dues to the address above.

Internet Home Page : [WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC](http://WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC)



Here's another construction tip. . .

## EZ audio amp for in-car HT use

**Mike Greenfield, N9JIY**

It's easy enough to hook your 2M handheld to a mobile antenna and 12V power supply. But how do you get enough audio volume out of the tiny thing? It's a pain and a problem!

Here's a very easy solution . . . if you have a cassette player in your car radio. Radio Shack offers a device that lets a portable CD player dump audio into an in-car cassette player. It has a 1/8" stereo plug on one end. The other end looks like a tape cassette. It uses no batteries!

To use it, you slip the "fake" cassette end into your cassette player, plug the stereo plug into your portable CD player, then let your car radio audio amp do all the hard work.

You can also plug the stereo plug into the earphone jack on your HT! You'll get 2M audio out of half your car's speakers, but that's plenty, and you'll have all the amplification you can stand.

Radio Shack calls this device a "Compact Disc Cassette Adapter." It's stock number 12-1951, and will set you back about \$20. A deal! —*The SATERN Ring*

**OTVARC**

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY A.R.C.

PO Box 5132

ALOHA, OR 97006-0132

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Al Berg  
2256 SE Oak Crest  
Hillsboro

OR 97123